MINUTES

OF THE FORTY-FOURTH SESSION

OF THE

Mississippi Annual Conference,

OF THE

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SOUTH,

HELD IN JACKSON, MISS., NOV. 16—24, 1859.

REV. B. M. DRAKE PRESIDING.

VICKSBURG, MISS:
PRINTED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DAILY WHIG,
1860.

MINUTES

OF THE

FORTY-FOURTH SESSION

OF THE

Mississippi Annual Conference,

OF THE

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SOUTH,

HELD IN JACKSON, MISS., NOV. 16—24, 1859.

REV. B. M. DRAKE PRESIDING.

VICKSBURG, MISS:
PRINTED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DAILY WHIG,
1860.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CONFERENCE.

The Forty-fourth Session of the Mississippi Annual Conference of the M. E. Church, South, was begun and held in Jackson, Miss., November 16—24, 1859.

Bishop Kavanaugh not having arrived, the Conference was called to order by Henry J. Harris, Secretary of the last Conference, and on motion B. M. Drake was called to the Chair and opened the session with reading the Scriptures, singing and prayer.

The roll was called, and nearly all the members were present, and answered to their names.

A letter from Bishop Kavanaugh was read, stating that owing to long and severe bodily affliction, he would not be in attendance, whereupon the Conference proceeded to ballot for President, and Rev. B. M. Drake was elected.

Henry J. Harris was nominated and elected Secretary, and James A. Godfrey assistant.

The rules which governed the last Conference were adopted for the government of this session.

B. M. Drake was, on motion, excused from acting as chairman of the Committee on Education, and John C. Miller was appointed in his stead.

The Secretary called for credentials of Lay Delegates, when it appeared that a large majority of the Circuits and Stations were represented, and the delegates invited to co-operation with the Conference, in accordance with the plan adopted at the last session of the Conference.

The following Standing Committees were appointed, viz:

On Public Worship.—Levi Pearce, J. L. Forsyth, and William H. Watkins.

On Memoirs.—J. R. Lambuth, Geo. D. Wade, and Levi Pearce.

QUESTION 1.—Who are admitted on trial?

ANSWER.—Phillip S. Petty, Joseph A. McPherson, Auguste Gottshall, Nathan Coffee, Harvey F. Johnson, Isaac N. Bedford, Lewis Kendall, †*George W. Stewart*, *William F. Camp, Hiniard Townsend.

Q. 2.—Who remain on trial?

A.—Nathan S. Cornell, William B. Lewis, Andrew J. Wheat, William Glass, *Jackson J. Millsaps, Charles G. Andrews, Ransom

* In Deac ons orders. † In Elders orders.

J. Jones, Jr., Robert B. Downer, Newton B. Young, Parmenas Howard, Charles A. McNeill, Jacob P. Briggs, †*Thomas C. Rayner*, John A. Vance.

Q. 3.—Who are admitted into full connection?

A.—Henry P. Lewis, Green C. Fore, William R. Rainey, Asbury R. Hines, George Jackson, Albert Beckton, John D. Shaw, Jarrot W. McNeill.

Q. 4.—Who are re-admitted?

A.—†*James Walton*, †*William Finn.*

Q. 5.—Who are received by transfer from other Conferences?

A.—None.

Q 6.—Who are the Deacons of one year?

A.—Richard T. Hennington, Wallace W. Graves, John W. Jones, †*Richard Abbey*, †*Vernon H. Johnson*, †*William Scales*, †*Henry Copeland.*

Q. 7.—What Traveling Preachers are elected and ordained as Deacons?

A.—‡Henry P. Lewis, ‡John D. Shaw, ‡Green C. Fore, ‡William R. Raney, ‡Asbury R. Hines, ‡George Jackson, ‡Albert Beckton, ‡Jarrot W. McNeill.

Q. 8.—What Local Preachers are elected and ordained Deacons?

A.—‡George Cope, ‡David Scarborough, ‡William H. Mullins, ‡George E. Foote, ‡James W. Kirkpatrick, ‡William Jayne, ‡F. Finch, ‡Elijah Graves, ‡Hezekiah Harrison, ‡Francis A. Alford, ‡Joseph T. Hennington, ‡Lafayette J. Lacke, ‡John T Coleman.

Q 9.—What Traveling Preachers are elected and ordained Elders?

A.—‡John D. Willis, ‡Samuel T. Swinney, ‡John W. McCrary, ‡Robert W. Lambuth, ‡Daniel M. Wadsworth, ‡William G. Millsaps.

Q. 10.—What Local Preachers are elected and ordained Elders?

A.—‡William F. Camp, ‡Hollis W. Williams, ‡Alexander Elliot, ‡John Dean, ‡Thomas S. Newman, Dempsey Sparksman.

Q. 11.—Who have located this year?

A.—*Washington Ford, William S. Townsend,* Kenneth A. Jones.

Q. 12.—Who are Supernumerary?

A.—*James H. Lancy,* Thomas M. Ward, Alexander J. Smith, Daniel M. Wadsworth.

Q. 13.—Who are Superanuated?

A.—*Peter James, Thomas Owens, Thomas Clinton, James M. Turner, John J. E. Bird, George C. Light, Lemuel Campbell, Hardy Mullins, Lysander Wiley.*

‡ Elected but not ordained.

Q. 14.—What Preachers have died during the year?

A.—*John T. Dew*, Thomas W. Hines.

Memoir of Rev. John T. Dew.—John T. Dew was born on the 2d day of October, A. D. 1820, in Calvert County, Maryland. He came to Mississippi in the character of a teacher, in which capacity he was engaged for some years. The proceeds arising from his school were appropriated to the maintenance of a widowed mother and family.

We find that he was admitted into the itineracy at the Conference held in Clinton, La., in 1851, and appointed to the Wilkinson Circuit as a junior preacher with A. T. M. Fly. At the Conference in 1852, held in Jackson, Miss., he was appointed to the Yazoo Circuit and Colored Mission, as junior preacher with Levi Pearce. At the Conference held in Canton, in 1853, he was appointed to Carrollton Circuit, as junior preacher with L. Erenbrack. At the Conference held in Jackson, La., he was appointed to Tallula in charge. At the Conference held in Vicksburg, in 1855, he was returned to Tallula. At the Conference held in Kosciusko, in 1856, he was appointed to Covington. At the Conference at Brandon, in 1857, he was returned to Covington. At the Conference held in Woodville in 1858, he was appointed to Raymond and Spring Ridge as junior preacher, and was married to Miss Lizzie Arthur of Covington, La., December 3d, 1858.

At the commencement of this Conference year he entered upon his work in feeble health, but was at his post and met the first appointment, notwithstanding the extremly inclement weather, and seemed wholly devoted to the cause in which he was engaged. While attending a protracted meeting at Spring Ridge in the month of September, on the fourth day of said meeting, after preaching with great earnestness he came out of the pulpit with rapid pulse and high fever. He was then advised to return to Raymond where he was boarding at the house of Brother Thomas Mount, and call in medical aid, which he did, and it was thought by his friends, and he expressed the hope that he would in a few days, so far recover that he would attend the meeting before its close. But in this we were all disappointed; for his disease assumed the Typhoid form, and continued for nine consecutive weeks without intermission. During his illness he had some severe exercises of the mind as to the condition of his family. But for the last five or six weeks of his illness he was entirely resigned and happy, frequently rejoicing aloud with the prospect of a glorious immortality, and so continued until his mind gave way. Whenever Christian friends called to see him, he would request them to join in prayer and he would heartily respond amen. But a few days before his death, the writer called to see him. Said he, "Brother Lambuth, tell all my brethren of the Conference where to find me," with his eyes lifted toward Heaven. When we parted, I asked him: "If we meet no more on earth, should we meet him in Heaven?" To which he responded: "Yes! oh yes!" After this his mind became flighty with occasional lucid moments. He breathed his last on the morning of the 10th of November, 1859.

Thus one of our number has fallen; it should admonish us to be also ready. We commend the afflicted widow and orphan child of our deceased Brother to the kind regards of the members of this body. JOHN R. LAMBUTH.

The Committee on Memoirs have furnished us no obituary notice of Brother Thomas W. Hines.—Pub. Com.

Q. 15.—Are all the Preachers blameless in their life and official administration?

A.—The names of the Preachers were called, their characters severally examined, and passed.

Q. 16.—What is the number of Preachers and Members in the several Circuits, Stations, and Missions of the Conference?

A.—The Committee respectfully submit the following report:

APPOINTMENTS.	WH'T MEMBERS	WHITE PROBATIONERS	COLORED MEMBERS.	COLORED PROBATIONERS.	LOC'L PREACH'S	DEACONS.....	ELDERS.....	S. SCHOOLS...	OFFICERS, &c..	SCHOLARS....	NO. VOLS. IN LIBRARY.	VISITORS TAK'N	MONEY COLL'D FOR S. S. PUR'S.	BIBLE MONEY.	COLORED CATECHUMENS.
NATCHEZ DISTRICT.															
Natchez Station	308	9	430	75	2	..	2	1	19	135	600	....	.....	.....	.....
Kingston	21	....	230	.....	..	..	..	1	7	20	300	25	.....	.....	200
Meadville Circuit	220	43	120	43	3	..	2	..	..	....	....	....	.....	.....	.....
Amite "	189	50	87	51	1	..	1	..	..	....	....	....	.....	.....	.....
Holmesville Circuit	201	62	59	63	1	1	..	2	10	50	125	....	.....	.....	.....
Pearl River "	222	59	8	60	3	..	1	..	..	....	....	....	.....	.....	.....
Buffalo "	115	145	111	....	1	..	1	..	..	....	....	....	.....	.....	.....
Homochitto Colored Mission	....	....	....	....	..	..	..	..	..	....	....	....	.....	.....	No Report
Wilkinson Circuit	180	79	28	15	..	..	1	3	13	50	248	....	$11 50	.....	.....
Woodville Station	124	38	170	32	1	..	..	1	10	70	400	30	42 00	.....	.....
Percy's Creek Circuit	98	7	414	60	..	..	..	..	..	....	....	....	.....	.....	.....
Wilkinson Colored Mission	....	....	286	159	..	..	1	..	..	....	....	....	.....	.....	.....
Total	1687	492	1943	558	12	1	9	8	59	315	1673	55	$53 50	.....	.....
FAYETTE DISTRICT.															
Fayette Circuit	130	124	30	120	..	..	3	4	5	100	300	12	$21 00	$65 00	.....
South Jefferson Colored Mission	....	....	551	383	..	..	..	..	..	....	....	....	.....	.....	200
North " " "	....	....	187	154	..	..	..	..	..	....	....	....	.....	.....	.....
Washington and Colored Mission	50	6	100	54	..	..	..	1	6	20	200	20	5 00	.....	.....
Scotland Circuit	310	134	200	69	2	..	..	..	..	....	....	....	.....	.....	.....
Brookhaven "	178	85	40	6	2	2	2	5	20	125	300	60	.....	.....	.....
Georgetown "	482	153	71	74	3	2	4	3	12	65	500	....	.....	.....	.....
Bayou Pierre "	497	186	236	50	3	1	1	2	13	78	184	....	22 00	.....	.....
Bayou Pierre Colored Mission	....	....	125	163	..	..	..	..	..	....	....	....	.....	.....	.....
Cayuga Circuit	326	25	52	45	..	2	2	2	15	75	300	30	.....	.....	.....
Rocky Springs	77	82	319	28	..	..	..	1	5	10	50	....	.....	.....	.....
Port Gibson and Grand Gulf	82	11	82	34	..	..	..	1	10	65	240	70	100 00	.....	.....
Total	2132	806	2003	1180	10	7	12	19	86	538	1074	192	$148 00	$65 00	.....

VICKSBURG DISTRICT.

Vicksburg Station	240	19	220	20	1	..	2	1	35	202	....	100	$256 92	.....	.....
Warren and Colored Mission	188	28	175	45	..	..	1	2	9	40	250	20	.....	.....	.....
North Warren Circuit	150	40	20	25	2	.	..	4	18	75	600	5	5 00	.....	.....
Clinton Circuit, (Miss)	240	13	450	50	..	1	1	3	10	150	400	....	.....	.....	.....
Raymond and Spring Ridge	156	16	140	20	4	1	1	2	16	85	750	....	15 00	.....	.....
Jackson Station, (Miss.)	118	16	250	50	1	..	..	1	13	75	400	75	55 00	.....	.....
Brandon Circuit	421	147	152	28	8	2	3	7	35	....	250	33	.....	.....	.....
Rankin Colored Mission	....	....	108	56	..	..	..	..	..	....	....	....	.....	.....	.....
Union Circuit	243	32	24	....	2	..	3	1	3	....	....	....	.....	.....	.....
Total	1756	311	1539	294	18	4	11	21	139	627	2650	233	$331 92	.....	.....

GREENVILLE DISTRICT.

Greenville Station	40	5	28	8	..	..	1	1	8	25	75	....	.....	.....	232
Greenville Colored Mission	....	....	149	....	..	..	..	..	..	....	....	....	.....	.....	.....
Bolivar and Colored Mission	27	15	91	40	..	..	..	..	..	....	....	....	.....	.....	.....
Upper Deer Creek	2	....	123	25	..	..	..	..	..	....	....	....	.....	.....	80
Middle Deer Creek	79	....	91	50	..	1	..	..	..	....	....	....	.....	.....	80
Sunflower	18	14	49	56	1	..	..	..	..	....	....	....	.....	.....	.....
Lower Deer Creek	19	8	178	....	..	..	1	1	5	22	115	....	.....	.....	40
Tallula	12	1	149	65	..	..	..	..	..	....	....	....	.....	.....	.....
Duncan & Hampton's Plantation	5	....	350	335	..	..	..	..	..	....	....	....	.....	.....	250
Point Worthington and American Bend	22	....	84	35	..	..	..	..	..	....	....	....	.....	.....	.....
Total	224	43	1292	614	1	1	2	2	13	47	190	....	.....	.....	.....

YAZOO DISTRICT.

Yazoo City Station	74	26	44	77	..	..	1	1	11	45	2000	15	.....	.....	.....
Yazoo Colored Mission	12	....	91	7	..	..	..	..	..	....	....	....	.....	.....	.....
Mount Olivet Circuit	260	25	23	8	1	1	1	..	..	....	....	....	.....	.....	.....
Valley Colored Mission	....	....	44	....	..	..	..	..	..	....	....	....	.....	.....	.....
Big Black Colored Mission	....	....	54	59	..	..	..	..	..	....	....	....	.....	.....	180
Yazoo Circuit	119	104	178	23	2	..	1	1	10	50	100	....	$17 00	.....	.....
Ebenezer	131	21	127	59	2	..	1	..	..	....	....	....	.....	.....	.....
Richland and Lexington	94	6	124	....	..	..	..	2	15	30	....	....	.....	.....	.....

APPOINTMENTS.	WH'T MEMBERS.	WHITE PROBATIONERS.	COLORED MEMBERS.	COLORED PROBATIONERS.	LOC'L PREACH'S	DEACONS...	ELDERS.....	S. SCHOOLS...	OFFICERS, &C.	SCHOLARS....	NO. VOLS. IN LIBRARY.	VISITORS TAK'N	MONEY COLL'D FOR S. S. PURP'S	BIBLE MONEY.	COLORED CATECHUMENS.
YAZOO DISTRICT. (CONTINUED.)															
Holmes Circuit	253	16	95	....	..	..	..	2	8	70	150	....	.....	.....	....
Black Hawk	289	72	80	90	3	..	1	1	5	40	200	32	.....	.....	....
Honey Island Colored Mission	....	....	150	12	..	1	..	..	..	....	....	....	.....	.....	.....
Carrollton Circuit	228	61	135	30	1	2	..	2	10	100	300	....	.....	.....	.....
Greenwood and Tallahatchie Mission	41	3	53	18	..	..	..	..	..	....	....	....	.....	.....	.....
Sidon Mission	4	1	24	30	..	..	..	..	..	....	....	....	.....	.....	.....
Total	1515	335	1222	403	9	4	5	9	59	335	2850	32	$ 17 50	.....	.....
STARKVILLE DISTRICT.															
Starkville and Pierce Chappel	85	14	118	40	..	..	..	1	7	40	100	....	.....	.....	.....
Octibbeha Circuit	150	....	18	....	..	..	..	..	..	....	....	....	.....	.....	.....
Octibbeha Colored Mission	....	....	56	158	..	..	..	..	..	....	....	....	.....	.....	.....
Greensboro	320	....	12	3	..	..	..	..	..	....	....	....	.....	.....	.....
Middleton	408	66	320	....	..	..	..	..	..	....	....	....	.....	.....	.....
Bankston	150	61	10	22	..	..	..	1	7	25	150	....	$ 30 00	.....	.....
Atalla	447	134	34	35	5	2	2	3	15	60	....	....	.....	.....	.....
Double Springs	314	100	17	....	..	..	..	..	..	....	....	....	.....	.....	.....
Louisville Mission	157	56	....	45	2	..	..	..	..	....	....	....	.....	.....	.....
Webster Circuit	288	30	56	13	..	..	..	..	..	....	....	....	.....	.....	.....
Total	2319	551	651	316	7	2	2	5	29	125	250	....	$ 30 00	.....	.....
SHARON DISTRICT.															
Sharon Circuit	143	35	323	33	1	1	..	2	25	120	275	....	$ 60 00	.....	.....
Canton and Pearl River	145	16	90	40	..	..	2	2	16	80	210	180	60 00	.....	.....
Vernon and Livingston	46	3	....	....	..	..	1	..	..	....	....	....	.....	.....	.....
Madison Colored Mission	....	....	50	16	..	..	..	..	..	....	....	....	.....	.....	.....
Robinson's Plantation	....	....	152	12	..	..	..	..	..	....	....	....	.....	.....	.....
Camden Circuit	200	22	179	16	2	..	1	3	15	80	300	....	.....	.....	.....

McWillie's Colored Mission	....	....	110	7	..	..	..	..	...	....	....	....	.....	.....	92
Carthage	315	50	60	....	..	..	..	..	...	....	....	....	.....	.....	.....
Lobutcha Mission	....	....	....	....	..	..	..	..	...	....	....	....	.....	.....	.....
Philadelphia	300	91	....	....	3	..	4	..	...	....	....	....	.....	.....	.....
Hillsboro	349	....	37	....	..	..	..	..	...	....	....	....	.....	.....	.....
Total	1498	217	1001	144	6	1	8	7	56	280	785	180	$120 00	.....	.....
BILOXI DISTRICT.															
Sea Shore Circuit	88	100	38	22	2	..	1	2	17	80	350	20	$ 45 00	.....	.....
Gainesville	58	8	33	22	..	..	..	2	8	26	60	2	.....	.....	.....
Columbia	80	4	51	2	..	..	..	..	...	....	....	....	.....	.....	.....
Westville	231	107	58	19	2	2	..	..	...	....	....	....	.....	.....	.....
Raleigh	208	178	79	....	3	..	1	..	...	....	....	....	.....	.....	.....
Paulding	400	....	150	..	..	2	..	3	24	100	350	....	.....	.....	.....
Garlandsville Colored Mission	....	....	33	89	..	..	..	..	...	....	....	....	.....	.....	.....
Leaf River Mission	110	4	10	3	..	..	..	..	...	....	....	....	.....	.....	.....
Black Creek Colored Mission	137	92	6	24	1	..	..	..	...	....	....	....	.....	.....	.....
Decatur	475	87	60	30	1	1	3	2	10	70	....	....	.....	.....	.....
Total	1787	580	518	191	9	5	5	9	59	276	760	42	$ 45 00	.....	.....
CLINTON DISTRICT.															
Clinton Station, La	108	15	130	30	1	2	..	1	15	80	300	....	.....	.....	.....
East Feliciana Circuit	236	125	3	....	1	1	2	4	32	126	730	56	$ 15 00	$ 55 00	.....
East Feliciana Colored Mission	....	....	400	100	..	..	..	..	...	....	....	....	.....	.....	.....
Jackson Station, La	131	94	76	90	2	..	1	1	10	70	450	100	20 00	.....	.....
Thompson's Creek Colored Mission	....	....	96	48	..	..	..	..	...	....	....	....	.....	.....	140
Bayou Sara and Barrow's Chappel	25	....	40	14	..	..	..	1	15	100	....	....	.....	.....	.....
East Baton Rouge	168	38	100	38	3	1	1	..	...	....	....	....	.....	.....	.....
Livingston	214	37	....	22	2	..	2	3	17	57	150	....	.....	.....	.....
Covington and W. Pearl	82	....	112	....	..	..	..	3	13	75	....	....	.....	.....	.....
Franklinton	180	23	50	11	1	1	1	1	5	30	75	....	15 00	.....	.....
Greensburg	125	....	....	72	1	1	3	..	...	....	....	....	.....	.....	.....
St. Helena	120	40	250	50	..	..	..	..	...	....	....	....	.....	.....	.....
Total	1389	372	1257	475	11	6	10	14	107	538	1705	156	$50 00	$ 55 00	.....

RECAPITULATION.

	WHITE MEMBERS.	WHITE PROBAT'NRS.	COLORED MEMBERS.	COLORED PROBAT'NRS.
Natchez District	1,687	492	1,943	558
Fayette "	2,132	806	2,003	1,180
Vicksburg "	1,756	311	1,539	294
Greenville "	224	43	1,292	614
Yazoo "	1,505	335	1,222	413
Starkville "	2,319	451	641	316
Sharon "	1,498	217	1,001	144
Biloxi "	1,787	580	518	191
Clinton "	1,389	372	1,259	575
This Year	14,300	3,607	11,416	4,285
Last Year	13,987	3,821	10,466	3,400
	313*	214†	950*	885*
Net increase				1,934

* Increase
†Decrease.

Q. 17.—What amounts are necessary for the Superanuated Preachers, and the Widows and Orphans of Preachers, and to make up the deficiencies of those who have not obtained their regular allowance in their respective Districts, Circuits, and Stations?

A.—The Committee would respectfully submit the following report:

Assessment and Receipts of the several Districts, &c., of the Mississippi Conference for the support of the Bishops, Widows and Orphans, and worn out Preachers of the Mississippi Conference for the Conference year ending Nov. 24th, 1859:

Name of District.	Assessment.	Preacher.	Receipts.
NATCHEZ DIST. Total..	$900 00	L. CAMPBELL, P. E.	
Natchez Station	$131 25	J. J. Wheat	$ 137 75
Kingston Circuit	85 00	W. H. Watkins	$ 85 00
Holmesville Circuit	....	J. B. Brown.....62½	72 00
Holmesville	....	For Sister Watson.....10	
Wilkinson Circuit	...	D. W. Dillehay	113 50
Amite "	52 00	E. R. Strickland	52 00
Woodville	150 00	J. A. Godfrey	150 00
Pearl River	75 00	A. B. Nicholson	20 00
		Total	$ 630 25
Deficit in this District			$269 75
FAYETTE DIST. Total	$900 00	J. G. JONES, P. E.	
Port Gibson	100 00	Benj. Jones	$100 00
Bayou Pierre	150 00	W. Wadsworth	97 50
Fayette Circuit	125 00	W. G. Millsaps	106 00
Brookhaven Circuit	45 00	R. T. Hennington	45 00
Scotland "	30 00	W. B. Johnson	30 00
Georgetown "	....	J. M. Turner, ...	3 50
.....	....	One for Sister Watson.....	
Rocky Springs	100 00	D. A. J. Parker	....
		Total	$383 00
Deficit in this District			$517 00

VICKSBURG DIST.	$900 00	L. PEARCE, P. E.	
Vicksburg Station	131 25	W. P. Barton	$131 25
.....	....	Sister Sarah C. Lane's contribution	25 00
.....	....	Dr. E. M. Lane's contribution	25 00
.....	...	Preacher in charge Cir.	3 75–185 00
.....	....	George Jackson	87 80
.....	....	P. E. Green	102 80
Clinton Circuit	131 25	W. Price	136 80
Warren "	131 25	J. R. Lambuth	102 50
Brandon "	112 50	J. D. Newson	112 50
Raymond and Spring Ridge	....	J. L. Forsyth	96 15
North Warren Circuit	112 50	Total	$823 55
Jackson Station	96 15		
Deficit in this District			$76 45
Interest on Vanhouton Bequest.		L. Pearce	40 00
" " "		H. H. Montgomery	255 70
			$1119 25

GREENVILLE DIST.	$625 00	W. B. HINES, P. E.	
Greenville Station	100 00	W. Harrington	$276 50
Greenville Colored Mission	....	G. C. Fore	50 00
Pt. Worthington & Amer. Bend.	100 00	C. G. Andrews	.... 100 00
Bolivar	75 00	W. Glass	75 00
Middle Deer Creek	50 00	J. Y. Griffing	22 50
Lower " "	50 00	" "	50 00
Upper " "	50 00	E. F. Mullins	32 50
Sunflower	50 00	J. D. Shaw	28 75
.....		W. B. H. for Sister Rogers	10 00
		Total	$645 25
Surplus			$20 25

YAZOO DIST.	$765 00	D. M. WIGGINS, P. E.	
Yazoo City Station	50 00	R. W. Lambuth	$ 44 65
Holmes Circuit	....	J. G. Carlisle	45 00
Ebenezer Circuit	....	G. F. Thompson	75 00
Sidon Mission	30 00	J. Maclennan	9 60
Yazoo Circuit	80 00	H. Williamson	80 00
Mount Olivert Circuit	80 00	F. M. Featherston	82 60
Black Hawk "	95 00	T. C. Raynor	95 00
Richland and Lexington	100 00	G. C. Light	70 00
Greenwood	30 00	C. T. French	15 00
Carrollton Circuit	90 00	J. W. McCrary	65 00
		Total	$581 85
Deficit			$183 15

STARKVILLE DIST.	$400 00	G. D. WADE, P. E.	
Starkville & Pearce's Chapel	50 00	J. J. Millsaps	$ 50 00
Middleton Circuit	50 00	W. P. Dickerson	50 00
Double Springs	20 00	T. Castle	20 00
Greensboro Circuit	20 00	—— Holiday	20 00
Louisville "	20 00	J. M. Jones	10 00
Webster "	20 00	J. O. Woodward	20 25
Bankston "	20 00	A. R. Hines	20 00
Attala "	50 00	L. Ercanbrack	52 00
Octibbeha "	50 00	J. J. Early	....
		Total	$242 25
Deficit			$157 75

SHARON DIST.	$625 00	J. MATHEWS, P. E.	
Vernon & Livingston	....	J. Lusk	57 50
Camden Circuit	....	W. Ford, per H. H. M.	100 00
Decatur "	50 00	D. McDonald	11 00
Sharon "	100 00	J. M. Pugh	85 00
		Total	$253 50
Deficit			$371 50
Gordon's Donation per L. Pearce			$100 00
			$353 50

BILOXI DIST.	$50 00	R. J. JONES, P. E.	
Gainesville Mission	....	J. English	$16 25
Sea Shore	....	J. W. McNeil	29 00
Leaf River Mission	....	J. Boyes	10 10
Westville Circuit	....	B. B. Whittington	10 00
Paulding "	....	A. J. Wheat	8 65
		Total	$74 00
Surplus			$24 00

CLINTON DIST.	$150 00	B. PIPKIN, P. E.	
Clinton Station	....	G. H. Clinton	$ 50 00
Bayou Sara & Barrows	....	T. W. Brown	26 60
Jackson, La	....	J. A. B. Jones	158 00
East Baton Rouge	....	J. Nicholson	38 65
St. Helena Circuit	50 00	D. M. Wadsworth	50 00
Franklinton "	40 00	H. D. Berry	6 00
East Feliciana Circuit	100 00	G. T. Vickers	100 00
		Total	$429 25
Surplus			$279 25
Rawles' Bequest, H. H. Montgomery			$30 00
			$459 25

SUMMARY VIEW OF THE ABOVE REPORT.

Districts.	Assments.	Receipts.	Deficit.	Surplus.
Natchez	$900 00	$630 25	$269 75	.....
Fayette	900 00	383 00	517 00	.....
Vicksburg	900 00	823 55	76 45	.....
Greenville	625 00	645 25	.....	$20 25
Yazoo	765 00	581 85	183 15	.....
Starkville	400 00	242 25	157 75	.....
Sharon	625 00	253 50	371 50	.....
Biloxi	50 00	74 00	.....	$24 00
Clinton	150 00	429 25	.....	$279 00
Total	.....	$4062 90	.....	.....
Bequest, &c.	5315	425 70		
		$4,488 60		

It will be seen by the accompanying statistics that the whole amount collected on the assessments was $4,062 90, equal to 74 cents in the dollar—a large increase on all former collections. Add to this $425 70 from bequests, donation, &c., and we have $4,488 60, the amount paid into the hands of the chairman of the Sub. Committee on Ministerial Support. For information respecting the appropriation of this money see said Chairman's Report.

A glance at the synopsis herewith furnished will show the comparative success of the different districts. The Report shows which Stations, Circuits, &c., have had a purpose to do their duty in this good work of supporting the widows and orphans and claimants on this fund. May not some of the preachers inquire seriously, how far they are at fault for neglecting their duty? Is it not indicative of forgetfulness on the part of some of the P. E's, that returns are so meagre from their Districts. Our excellent "Plan" is new, only one year old, and we are not surprised that it was not worked by all; we hope that the blanks of this year will be well filled up next year, and that every preacher will report something, and that the aggregate will equal the assessment. We hope all claims were met this year, and will be ever after.

W. P. BARTON,
Chairman of Com. on Ministerial Support.

Q. 18.—What has been collected on the foregoing accounts, and how has it been applied?

A.—The Committee would respectfully submit the following report:

Claims and Receipts of the Preachers of the Mississippi Conference, for the Conference year, ending November 24th, 1859.

Name of Work.	Assessment.	Preacher.	Receipts.
NATCHEZ DIST.	$1200	L. CAMPBELL, P. E.	$1200
" Station	1250	J. J. Wheat	1250
" Col'd Mission	300	R. B. Downer	300
Kingston Circuit	1200	W. H. Watkins	1200
Meadville "	...	H. M. Youngblood	...
Amite "	455	E. R. Strickland	455
Holmesville "	550	J. B. Bowen	550
Pearl River "	600	A. B. Nicholson	500
Buffalo "	595	J. J. Clark	492
Wilkinson "	1000	D. W. Dillehay	1000
Woodville Station	1120	J. A. Godfrey	1120
Percy's Creek Circuit	750	T. Price	750
" " "	550	Wm. Finn	550
	$9570 00		$9367 00
FAYETTE DIST.	$ 855	J. G. JONES, P. E.	$ 811 70
" Circuit	800	W. G. Millsaps	691
South Jefferson Col'd Mission.	687	R. A. Sibley	687
North " " "	650	John D. Willis	555
Washington Mission	1000	B. M. Drake	500
Scotland Circuit	750	W. B. Johnsen	750
Brookhaven	560	R. T. Hennington	402 80
Georgetown	...	J. H. Laney	...
Bayou Pierre & Col'd Mission.	600	W. Wadsworth	589 76
" " " "	300	W. B. Lewis	294 88
Cayuga Circuit	1100	H. J. Harris	...
Rocky Springs Circuit	800	D. A. J. Parker	800

Amount brought over	$8102
Port Gibson	800
" "	800
Fayette Circuit	400
Georgetown Circuit	350
" "	150
	$10,602 00
VICKSBURG DIST.	$1200
" Station	1500
Bovina Colored Mission	...
Warren Circuit	1000
" "	300
North Warren Circuit	800
Clinton & Col'd Mission	750
" " " "	150
Raymond & Spring Ridge	750
" " " "	750
Jackson Station	1000
Brandon Circuit	700
Rankin Col'd Mission	600
Union Circuit	550
	$10,050 00
Book & Tract Agent	1500
Financial Sec'y, &c	1200
GREENVILLE DIST.	$1200
" Station	1000
" Col'd Miss'n.	478
Bolivar & Col'd Mission	300
" " " "	300
Upper Deer Creek	530
Middle " "	430
Lower " "	...
Duncan's & Hampton's Plant'ns	150
Pt. Worthington & Am. Bend	400
Tallula	500
Sunflower	220
	$5308 00
YAZOO DIST.	$1075
" Station	750
" Colored Mission	250
Mount Olivet Circuit	800
Valley Colored Mission	925
Big Black " "	550
Yazoo Circuit & Mission	828
Ebenezer Circuit	700
Richland & Lexington	600
Holmes Circuit	600
Black Hawk Circuit	600
Honey Island	600
Carrollton Circuit	700
Greenwood, Tallahatchie & Miss	1000
Sidon Mission	650
	$10,628 00

Amount brought over	$6082 14
H. M. Booth	800
Benj. Jones	800
Charles McNeil	339 25
J. M. Turner	258 75
J. C. Taylor	126
	$8046 14
L. PEARCE, P. E.	$1200
W. P. Barton	1500
H. Copeland	....
P. E. Green	1000
W. S. Cornell	300
J. D. Newsom	800
L. Wiley	375
Geo. Jackson	150
J. R. Lambuth	300
J. T. Dew	....
J. L. Forsyth	1000
W. Price	700
J. S. Deskins	270
F. W. Sharobrugh	229 25
	$7824 25
H. H. Montgomery	1175
R. Abbey	1200
W. B. HINES, P. E.	$1156
W. Harrington	1000
G. C. Fore	478
W. Glass	300
P. Howard	300
E. F. Mullins	530
J. Y. Griffing	430
J. Y. Griffing	170
J. H. Shelton	350
S. T. Swiney	115
C. G. Andrews	357
M. T. Thomason	200
J. D. Shaw	220 40
	$5606 40
D. M. WIGGINS, P. E.	$972 50
R. W. Lambuth	691
J. P. Briggs	250
F. M. Featherston	800
J. W. Jones	415
A. Becton	300
H. Williamson	587
G. F. Thompson	700
G. C. Light	600
J. G. Carlisle	551
T. C. Raynor	600
W. R. Rainey	190
J. W. McCrary	700
C. T. French	500
J. Maclennan	235
	$8091 50

STARKVILLE DIST.	$900	GEO. D. WADE, P. E.	$700
Starkville & Pierce's Chapel	450	J. J. Millsaps	500
Octibbeha Circuit	211	J. J. Early	211
" Colored Mission	...	T. W. Hines, dead	...
Middleton Circuit	650	W. P. Dickerson	604
Bankston "	515	A. R. Hines	436 20
Attala "	900	L. Ercanbrack	600 00
Double Springs Circuit	350	T. W. Castle	350
Louisville Circuit	730	J. M. Jones	400
Webster "	608	J. O. Woodward	400
	$5314 00		$4201 20
SHARON DIST.	$600	J. MATHEWS, P. E.	$400
" Circuit	600	J. M. Pugh	600
Canton & Pearl River	1000	W. M. Curtiss	812 60
Vernon & Livingston	850	J. Lusk	850
Madison Col'd Mission	865	A. Day	865
Robinson's Mission	500	J. S. Harris	500
Camden Circuit	600	W. Ford	...
" "	...	J. W. Adams, Sup'y	...
McWillie's Plantations	350	J. H. Massey	232
Carthage,	...	J. A. Light	...
Lobutcha Mission	525	A. J. Smith	131
Philadelphia Circuit	500	K. A. Jones	235
Decatur Circuit	750	D. McDonald	407
Hillsboro Circuit	...	T. C. Parish,	...
	$7140 00		$5032 60
BILOXI DIST.	$700	R. J. JONES, P. E.	$608 95
Black River Mission	165	N. B. Young	165
Hansboro Circuit	180	J. W. McNeil	180
Gainesville Mission	225	J. English	119
Columbia	185	H. P. Lewis	117 10
Westville Circuit	560	B. B. Whittington	560
Raleigh Circuit	400	J. A. Vance	267
Paulding "	675	A. J. Wheat	425 25
Garlandsville,	520	R. J. Jones, Jr	335
Leaf River	150	J. Boyes	131 80
	$3760 00		$2909 10
CLINTON DIST.	$ 800	B. PIPKIN, P. E.	$ 395
" Station	1150	G. H. Clinton	1150
East Feliciana Circuit	900	E. A. Flowers	900
" " "	300	G. T. Vickers, Sup'y	300
" " Colored Mission	700	C. R. Godfrey	700
Jackson, La	900	J. A. B. Jones	900
Bayou Sara, La	400	T. W. Brown	300
East Baton Rouge Circuit	700	J. Nicholson	493 30
Livingston	535	W. S. Townsend	231 50
Covington & West Pearl river	...	W. W. Graves	...
Franklinton, La	300	H. D. Berry	265
Greensburg	...	A. Castle	...
St. Helena	250	D. M. Wadsworth	196
	$6935 00		$5831 10
Pres't Centinary Col	2000	J. C. Miller	2000
Prof. Greek &c., Cen. Col	1200	W. H Scales	1500
Agent Centinary College	2000	V. H. Johnson	2000

SUMMARY OF ASSESSMENTS AND RECEIPTS.

Districts.	Assm'ts.	Rec'pts.	Deficits.	Surplus.
Natchez	$ 9570	$9367	$203	.....
Fayette	10602	8406 14	2195 86	.....
Vicksburg	10050	7824 25	2225 75	.....
Greenville	5308	5606 40	....	$298 40
Yazoo,	10628	8091 50	2537 50	.....
Starkville,	5314	4201 20	1112 80	.....
Sharon	7140	5032 60	2107 40	.....
Biloxi	3760	2909 10	850 90	.....
Clinton,	6935	5831 10	1103 90	.....
	$69307 00			
Surplus in Greenville Dist....	298 40			
Totals	$69605 40	$57269 29	$12336 11	.....
Agents & Teachers	8200	8200		

This Report is not exact; several of the preachers made no report, but it approaches the truth so near that it is safe for purposes of practical utility.

Teachers and agents get the largest salaries and surest pay; some teachers get a preacher's salary in addition to their tuition fees. The Natchez District comes nearer meeting the claims of the preachers than any District except the Greenville, which over-runs the assessments, because in some places no assessments were made, but the preacher paid. Yazoo District falls farthest short. Vicksburg Station supports its preacher most liberally, while Greenville Station contributes most money per member. In Vicksburg the "Plan" of financiering adopted last year by our Conference has been in successful operation for some years past, and has proved to be good. Begin early in the year and it will succeed. The accompanying table shows that the average assessment for ministerial support in our Conference is $627 for each preacher. The average receipts is $516.

The receipts on assessments is 82 per cent. on an average. The amount contributed by the preachers out of their salaries in the bounds of the Conference for preaching the gospel is $12,337 11. We believe our people are willing to support the preachers, to pay them dollar for dollar if they are rightly taught and urged to this duty. We suggest the value of presenting these statistics to the consideration of delinquent charges at an early day that the authorities may take measures at once to prevent a like delinquency in the future.

W. P. BARTON,
Chairman Committee on Ministerial Support.

Q. 19.—What has been contributed for the Missionary, Sunday School, and Tract Societies?

A.—See the following report.

NATCHEZ DISTRICT.	Whole Am't.	Cash.
Natchez	$181 00	$181 00
Kingston	450 00	.....
Holmesville	20 65	20 65
Buffalo	23 60	23 60
Wilkinson	507 50	507 50
Woodville,	399 50	232 00
	1581 25	964 75
FAYETTE DISTRICT.		
Fayette,	145 00	145 00
South Jefferson col. miss.	678 00	.....
North " " "	555 00	.....
Washington & " "	29 85	.....
Scotland	100 00	100 00
Brookhaven	79 55	79 55
Georgetown	103 50	103 50
Bayou Pierre	330 65	330 65
Rocky Spring & col. miss.	300 00	300 00
Port Gibson, Grand Gulf & colored mission	178 00	178 00
	2439 55	1266 55
GREENVILLE DISTRICT.		
Greenville	352 50	352 50
Bolivar & colored miss.	22 00	22 00
Pt Worthington & Amer. Bend	101 25	101 25
	475 75	475 75
VICKSBURG DISTRICT.		
Vicksburg	250 00	225 00
Warren & col. mission	260 50	260 50
North Warren	70 00	70 00
Clinton	163 50	163 50
Jackson	168 50	168 50
Brandon	141 00	13 50
Union	38 75	.....
	1092 25	901 00
YAZOO DISTRICT.		
Yazoo City (for China)	157 50	.....
Mount Olivet	25 30	25 30
Yazoo Circuit	10 00	10 00
Ebenezer	220 00	220 00
Richland & Lexington	15 00	15 00
Black Hawk	294 25	294 25
Carrollton	30 00	30 00
	752 05	594 55
STARKVILLE DISTRICT.		
	37 50	37 50
Starkville & Pierce chapel	23 50	23 50
Octibbeha	31 00	31 00
Middleton,	60 00	60 00
Attala	106 10	106 10
	258 10	258 10

SHARON DISTRICT.	Whole Am't.	Cash.
Sharon	65 00	.....
Canton & Pearl River ($10 for China)	82 00	82 00
Vernon & Livingston	2 50	2 50
Madison colored mission	865 00	.....
Robinson's Plantations	500 00	.....
Camden (for China)	71 50	.....
McWillie's Plantations	238 00	6 00
	1824 00	90 50
BILOXI DISTRICT.		
Sea Shore	22 75	22 75
Westville	20 00	20 00
Raleigh	2 10	2 10
Garlandsville col. miss.	235 00	.....
Leaf River	87 30	.....
Black Creek	115 00	.....
	482 15	44 85
CLINTON DISTRICT.		
East Feliciana	.....	11 00
Jackson, La	485 05	428 85
Bayou Sara and Barrow's Chapel	18 50	18 53
East Baton Rouge	27 63	27 60
Livingston	126 50	7 50
Covington & West Pearl	6 25	6 25
Greensburg	60 00	60 00
St. Helena	50 00	50 00
	773 93	609 73
DONATIONS.		
Rev. G. T. Vickers		20 00
Rev. H. M. Youngblood		5 00
Rev. Daniel G. Pepper		20 00
Rev. W. B Hines		20 00
Rev. H. Copeland		5 00
Mrs. Mary G. Perkins		25 00
Mrs. Ann Harris		5 00
Natchez Sunday School		35 00
From Com. of Publication		21 00
Anniversary Collection		100 00
D. Pipes ($25 for China and $15 to German)		40 00
		296 00

RECAPITULATION.		
Natchez District	1581 25	964 75
Fayette "	2439 55	1266 55
Greenville "	475 75	475 75
Vicksburg "	1092 25	901 00
Yazoo "	752 05	594 55
Starkville "	258 10	258 10
Sharon "	1824 00	90 50
Biloxi "	482 15	44 85
Clinton "	773 93	609 73
Donations "	.....	296 00

Sunday School Money, $775 42.

The whole amount of the claims of the Bishops, superannuated Preachers, and the widows and orphans of the deceased Preachers, is $3565 00, to meet which we have cash in hand $4418 85, which was distributed as follows:

To the Bishops	$400 00	Sister Fly and children	255 00
Brother Rogers' children	90 00	Sister Dawson and child	175 00
R. D. Smith's child	40 00	Sister Chapman	150 00
Sister Haney	150 00	Sister Johnson	150 00
Sister Payne and child	190 00	Sister Morris	150 00
Sister Hyer and child	190 00	Thomas Clinton	100 00
Sister Nash and child	190 00	Sister Cooper	75 00
Sister Daughtry and child	150 00	Sister Woodward	40 00
Hardy Mullins	300 00	J. B. Higginbotham	300 00
J. I. E. Bird	3 0 00	Dr. Lewel's child	20 00
Sister Watson	160 00	Surplus,	$1266 85

By resolution of the Conference, the surplus was appropriated to the relief of those Preachers who had failed to get their regular allowance on the several Districts, Circuits, and Missions which they had served.

Report of Agent.

The Agent of the Book and Tract Society begs leave to report that since he entered upon the Agency, July 1st, 1858, he has collected $11,072 00, as stock, donations, &c. He has devoted all his time except about two and a half months, to the Agency. He was absent about two months, visiting some springs, hoping to be relieved of a local disease.

His labors the present year have been confined to a small portion of the Conference, viz: Warren, Hinds, Madison, Leake, Atalla, Oktibbeha, Carroll, Holmes, Copiah, Claiborne, Washington, Bolivar and Choctaw counties, in this State.

The Depository is doing a good business. We regret that a larger number of Preachers do not engage in the book business.

There remains of the notes and subscriptions obtained by Bro. Abby, uncollected $8,100 00, about $1,300 00 of which may be set down as not collectable, as some have died, &c., and $1,700 00 as uncertain. Of those obtained since I came into the Agency, there are $1,890 00 unpaid, all of which I presume may be collected, showing that the notes and subscriptions we now have, which may be collected, amount to $7,000 00, for which there ought to be an Agent next year.

It is my opinion from the experience had in this Depository Agency, that the Depository will pay its expenses and annuities, but that unless shareholders relinquish their annuities we cannot do any gratuitous distributing among the poor and destitute. Within a few months past several of the shareholders have relinquished their annuities, that we may do something for the poor. Several also, of those who have subscribed or became shareholders this fall have relinquished all annuities.

Had there been a general effort among the Preachers to sell books, I believe there would have been at least $30,000 00, if not $40,000 00 worth of books and tracts put into circulation. I

base this estimate upon what one Preacher, Brother W. G. Millsaps, has done on his circuit, as also upon what one Colporteur has done in Atalla county. Every good book we sell and have read, makes way for another so that the trade does not diminish by putting the article into market.

Our patronage is increasing west into Louisiana, as the Vicksburg, Shreveport and Texas Railroad extends west. So do we find it increasing east, as the Southern Railroad extends east, and north as the Mississippi Central Railroad extends in that direction.

The trade in school books has greatly increased within a few months.

Expressing his gratitude to the brethren who have treated him so kindly when in their works, he submits this paper.

Respectfully,

H. H. MONTGOMERY, Agent.

To the President and Board of Managers of the Book and Tract Depository.

GENTLEMEN: I took charge of the Depository on the 14th July 1859. In accordance with your wishes a ballance sheet was made out, which exhibited the condition of the store on the 1st of September last.

A careful inventory of the stock on hand fixtures &c., shows the cost to be - $15,174 38
Notes and open accounts then due, - - - - - - - - - - 12,286 58

Total Assets, - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - $27,460 96
Amount paid in by Stockholders, - - - $16,414 85
Our bills payable and open accounts, - - 7,698 19

Total liabilities, - - - - - - - - - - - - 24,113 04–$24,113 04

Ballance in our favor, - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - $3,348 92

From my knowledge of the stock and debts, I could not estimate their value to exceed the liabilities to stockholders and others say, - $24,113 04
Credit sales for September, - - - - - - - - $1,036 75
Cash " " " - - - - - - - - - - - - 279 10--$1,315 85
Credit " " October, - - - - - - - - - - 834 41
Cash " " " - - - - - - - - - - - - 615 60--$1,450 01

Sales previous two months, - - - - - - - - - - - - - - $2,765 86
During the months of Sept. and Oct. after paying clerk hire

and all current expenses we have paid for rent, - - - $ 300 00
We have paid on Eastern bills, - - - - - - - - - - - - 2,154 69
" " " Cash for stock, - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 335 25

The business for the last four months would, with a well assorted stock, have been thirty per cent. larger.

To remedy this evil was a work of time, as the stock had to be taken, the wants learned and our impaired credit restored. This has been done, the necessary orders have been made out and freely filled. The Depository will be the means of great good to the Churches, and should if possible be sustained. Our expenses are now less than three thousand dollars.

No books are furnished except to actual purchasers. The store has been formerly injured by a commission business. As the longest time we can get is six months, the credit to others if possible, should be kept within those limits. All the bills have been made out, and we find many among them of long standing. This must be remedied or the store cannot promply meet its bills, and sustain its credit.

The Depository was founded upon a plan more liberal than the profits of the business will warrant. The employment of an agent to obtain subscriptions and collect the same, has unavoidably involved a large expense; it has been a heavy per centage upon the funds obtained. The Bible also, has cost more than was at first anticipated. The Agency and the Bible have consumed about forty per cent. of the collections.

The annuity of ten dollars, which is five dollars more than other Depositories pay, is given out of sixty dollars. This is a burthen too great for the store.

Some of the stockholders seeing this have with commendible liberality and Christian philanthropy, relinquished forever their annuities.

The impaired Stock Notes exceed six thousand dollars. Of this perhaps four thousand can be made good. The drawers of these notes are so scattered that it will require considerable time for an agent to see them all. It may be better to pay the Preachers a per centage to collect and remit the money. If this cannot be done, some one should be employed to make the collection of these notes his entire business for two months.

All business should be conducted under the name and style of Methodist Book and Tract Depository. A. MYGATT, Clerk.

Q. 20.—Where and when shall the next session of the Conference be held?

A.—At Natchez, Miss., time to be fixed by the Bishop.

Q. 21.—Where are the Preachers stationed this year?

Appointments of Preachers.

NATCHEZ DISTRICT.—*William H. Watkins*, P. E., Natchez.
Natchez Station.—William G. Millsaps, Natchez.
Kingston.—*John M. Jones*, Kingston, Miss.
{ Woodville.—*James A. Godfrey*, Woodville.
{ Woodville Colored Mission.—To be supplied.
Percy's Creek.—*William Finn*, M. W. Graves, Fort Adams.
Bayou Sara.—Robert B. Downer, Bayou Sara.
Laurel Hill and Barrows Chappel.—*J. J. Wheat*, Jackson, La.
{ Wilkinson.—*David W. Dillehay*, Newtonia, Miss.
{ do Colored Mission.—Phillip S. Petty, Centreville, Miss.
Buffalo Circuit.—*John J. Clark*, Cold Springs, Miss.
Homochitto Col'd Mission.—*H. M. Youngblood*, Union Church.
Meadville Circuit.—Chas. A. McNeil, Meadville.
FAYETTE DISTRICT.—*B. M. Drake*, P. E., Washington, Miss.
{ Fayette Circuit.—Harvey F. Johnson, Wm. B. Lewis, Fayette.
{ South Jefferson Col'd. Mission.—*Robert A. Sibley*, Fayette.
{ North " " " John D. Willis, Fayette.
Washington Circuit.—*John B. Bowen*, Washington.
Adams Colored Mission.—*John G. Jones*, Fayette.
Scotland.—*Wm. B. Johnson*, Nathan Coffee, "
Bayou Pierre.—*Wm. Wadsworth*, Pine Ridge, one to be supplied.
{ Cayuga.—*Danl. A. J. Parker*, Rocky Springs.
{ " Colored Mission.—To be supplied,
Rocky Springs.—Lewis Kendall, Rocky Springs.
Grand Gulf and Colored Mission.—*Horace M. Booth*, Pt. Gibson.
{ Port Gibson Station.—*John A. B. Jones*, Port Gibson.
{ Wesley Chapel & Colored Charge.—*Benj. Jones*, Port Gibson.
VICKSBURG DISTRICT.—*Levi Pearce*, P. E., Yazoo City.
Vicksburg Station.—*George H. Clinton*, Vicksburg.
{ Warren Circuit.—*George F. Thompson*, one to be supplied, Vicksburg.
{ Warren Colored Mission.—To be supplied.
North Warren.—*James H. Shelton*, Milldale.
Milldale & Colored Mission.—*Joseph D. Newsom*, Milldale.
{ Clinton.—*John Lusk*, Clinton, Miss,
{ Clinton Colored Mission.—*James S. Harris*, Brownsville.
Raymond & Spring Kidge.—*Geo. W. Stewart*, one to be supplied, Jackson, Miss.
Jackson Station.—*Whitfield Harrington*, Jackson, Miss.
Brandon Circuit.—*Archibald B. Nicholson*, Brandon.
Concord.—*William Price*, Brandon.
GREENVILLE DISTRICT.—*Wm. B. Hines*, P. E., Greenville, Miss.

{ Greenville Station.—*Wm. P. Barton.*
{ Greeville Colored Charge.—Green C. Fore, Greenville.
Bolivar and Colored Mission.—Parmenas Howard.
Bolivar.—Joseph A. McPherson, Bolivar, Miss.
Upper Deer Creek.—*Elisha F. Mullins*, Greenville.
Middle " " *James J. Early*, Greenville.
Lower " " Nathan S. Cornell, Hiniard Townsend, Deer Creek.
Tallula.—*James Y. Griffing*, Tallula.
Duncan's Plantations.—Samuel T. Sweeney, Skipwith's L'dg.
Hampton's Plantation.—William Glass, Skipwith's Landing.
Point Worthington & American Bend.—Charles G. Andrews, Point Worthington.
Sunflower.—To be supplied.
YAZOO DISTRICT.—*David M. Wiggins*, P. E., Sharon, Miss.
{ Yazoo City.—Robert W. Lambuth, Yazoo City.
{ " Colored Mission.—Jacob P. Briggs, Yazoo City.
{ Silver Creek Colored Mission.—Albert Becton, Yazoo City.
{ Mt. Olivet Circuit.—*Francis M. Featherston*, Dover.
{ Valley Colored Mission.—To be supplied.
{ Big Black Colored Mission.—John W. Jones, Satartia.
Yazoo Circuit & Colored Mission.—*Humphrey Williamson*, Benton, Miss.
Ebenezer Circuit.—*Thomas C. Parish*, Ebenezer, Miss.
Richland & Lexington.—Asbury R. Hines.
Holmes Circuit.—Ransom J. Jones, jr., Durant.
Honey Island Colored Mission.—Wm. R. Raney, Tchula.
Black Hawk.—*Thomas C. Rayner*, Lexington, Miss.
{ Carrollton.—John W. McCrary, Carrollton.
{ Carroll Colored Mission.—To be supplied.
Greenwood & Tallahatchie.—*Charles T. French*, one to be supplied, Greenwood.
Sidon Mission.—*James Maclennan*, Sidon.
STARKVILLE DISTRICT.—*Geo. D. Wade*, P. E., Attalaville, Miss.
Starkville & Pierce Chapel.—Jackson J. Millsaps, Starkville.
{ Octibbeha Circuit.—*Thos. W. Catsles*, Starkville.
{ Octibbeha Colored Mission.—To be supplied.
Greensboro.—To be supplied.
Middleton.—*James C. Carlisle*, Seralvo.
Bankston.—*Allen Castle*, Bankston.
Attala.—Wiley P. Dickerson, Kosciusko.
Double Springs.—To be supplied.
Louisville.—James C. Taylor, Louisville.

Webster.—*James O. Woodward*, Webster.
SHARON DISTRICT.—*James Walton*, P. E., Richland, Miss.
Sharon & Thornton Chapel.—*Wm. M. Curtis*, Thomas M. Ward, Sup'y, Sharon.
Madisonville.—*Josiah M. Pugh*, Sharon, Miss.
Canton & Pearl River.—Wm. F. Camp, Canton.
Vernon & Colored Mission.—H. H. Montgomery, Sharon, Miss.
Livingston & Colored Mission.—*John R. Lambuth*, Canton.
Robinson's Plantation.—Isaac N. Bedford, Livingston.
Camden.—*Lorenzo Ereanbrack*, Rocky Point.
McWillie's Colored Mission.—To be supplied.
Carthage.—*John W. Adams*, Sharon.
Lobutcha Mission.—*John H. Massey*, Centre.
Philadelphia.—John A Vance, Philadelphia.
Decatur.—*Daniel McDonald*, Alex. J. Smith, Sup'y, Decatur.
Hillsboro.—*Hervey Copeland*, Hillsboro.
Madison College.—*Thomas C. Thornton*, President, *J. M. Pugh*, fessor, Sharon.
BILOXI DISTRICT.—*Ransom J. Jones, Sr.*, P. E., Claiborne. Miss.
Biloxi.—To be supplied.
Handsboro & Pass Christian.—To be supplied.
Gainesville.—John D. Shaw, Gainesville.
Columbia.—Newton B. Young, Columbia.
Westville.—*Burwell B. Whittington*, Mt. Carmel.
Raleigh.—*John G. Deskin*, Raleigh.
Paulding & Colored Mission.—Jarrott W. McNeill, one to be supplied, Paulding.
Garlandsville & Colored Charge.—*Franklin W. Scarborough*, Flowers' Place.
Ellisville Mission.—George Jackson, Ellisville.
Augusta " John Boyes, Augusta.
Flint Creek.—To be supplied.
BROOKHAVEN DISTRICT.—*Thos. Price*, P, E., Brookhaven.
Brookhaven Circuit.—*Peter E. Green*, Brookhaven;
Holmesville & Colored Mission.—*Henry J. Harris*, Brookhaven.
N. O., J. & G. N. R. R. German Mission.—Augustus Gottshall, ——— Summit and Jackson.
Amite.—*Andrew Day*, Daniel M. Wadsworth, Sup'y., Liberty.
St. Helena.—Henry D. Berry, Osyka.
" " Colored Mission.—To be supplied.
Covington.—*James English*, Covington, La.
Franklinton.—Henry P. Lewis, Tangipaho.
Bogue Chitto Mission.—To be supplied.

Pearl River Circuit.—Richard T. Hennington, Hazlehurst.
Georgetown.—Andrew J. Wheat, *James H. Laney*, Sup'y., Hazelhurst.
CLINTON DISTRICT.—*Barnebus Pipkin*, P. E. Darlington, La.
Clinton Station.—*James L. Forsyth*, Clinton, La.
East Feliciana & Colored Misssion.—*Ephriam A. Flowers*, *C. R. Godfrey*, Clinton, La.
Port Hudson & Plains.—*George T. Vickers*, Port Hudson.
Jackson, La.—*Thomas W. Brown*.
Thompson's Creek Colored Mission.—To be supplied.
East Baton Rouge Circuit.—*Joseph Nicholson*, Walker, La.
Livingston.—*John Higginbotham*, Clinton, La.
Ponchatula.—To be supplied.
Greensburg.—*Erastus R Strickland*, Greensburg, La.
Centenary College.—*John C. Miller*, President; *Wm. Scales*, Prof. Mathematics; *John J. Wheat*, Prof. Greek; Vernon H. Johnson, Agent, Jackson, La.
James W. Lambuth, Missionary to Shanghai, China.
Richard Abbey, Financial Sec'y., Publishing House.
Chas. K. Marshall, Agent for Church Evangelist.
Superanuated Preachers, *Thomas Clinton*, *Thamas Owens*, *Peter James*, *J. I. E. Bird*, *George C. Light*, *James M. Turner*, *Lewel Campbell*, *Lysander Wiley*, *Hardy Mullins*.
James H. Merrill, *Jacob Mathews*, *James A. Light*, left to be transferred by the Bishop to the Texas Conference.

Q. 22.—What is the action of the Conference as to the cause of education?

A.—The Report of the Committee on Education was adopted, as follows:

Report of the Committee on Education.

The committee to whom was referred the subject of education beg leave to make the following Report:

The committee regard with especial favor the increasing interest which the subject of education is commanding throughout our borders. We regard it as the solemn duty of the Church to provide adequate facilities for the thorough christian education of her sons and daughters. As methodists we hold it likewise to be our duty to provide schools and colleges, both male and female, where the Church can see to it, that not only such an education as the wants of the age demand, may be had, but also that such religious influences shall be exerted as are accordant with doctrines, spirit and usages of methodism. We are not willing

that our children shall be educated by those who will exercise the influence of both teacher and preacher, to mould them according to the genius of a different communion. It would be wiser to hand over to the spiritual ministrations of others, our adult membership, whose faith and ecclesiastical preferences are fixed, than the confiding and impressible youth. A denominational school ought to make the spirit and peculiarities of the denomination to be felt upon the minds and hearts of pupils. If our schools and colleges ignore the peculiarities of our communion, your committee are not able to see what right they have to be called *Methodist.* That our institutions shall be thoroughly imbued with the spirit of methodism, is what our patrons expect, and the Church demands.

CENTENARY COLLEGE.

This institution of learning is well qualified for the high and responsible duty of training and developing the head and heart of our people. The constantly increasing patronage, and widening influence show that it is rapidly growing in the confidence of those to whom it must look for continuance and support. The present session opened under flattering auspices; about twice as many students were in attendance as were at the same time last year—more than two hundred having already entered. During the last term the College was visited by two gracious revivals of religion; many were converted, and some avowed their intention to enter the ministry. The moral and religious instruction of the students receive marked attention. Besides the public prayers in the Chappel held twice a day, and the preaching of the gospel on the Sabbath, which each student is required to attend, there are the usual Text books, on the evidences of Christianity, Moral Science, the analogy between Natural and Revealed Theology: and recitations in the Greek New Testament, together with Biblical Antiquities. The sons of itinerant Ministers, or members of the Conferences, and young men having the ministry in view, are admitted free of tuition. We regret that as yet, there is no provision made in this or any other of our institutions, to afford assistance in defraying wholly or in part the other expenses.

Changes have been made in the Faculty and the course of instruction, which will greatly advance the interests of the College. The chair of Natural Science has been made a full professorship, so as to embrace Agricultural Chemistry; and Professor A. R. Holcomb, a man eminently qualified for the position, has been elected to the chair. Rev. J. J. Wheat, a member of our body,

has been elected to the chair of Greek. The Faculty now consists of ten men, strong to labor, and apt to teach.

There is a debt remaining unpaid upon the new building—upwards of twenty thousand dollars—which we hope the agent will be able to pay off during the ensuing Conference year. The Endowment Fund is about thirty thousand dollars—wholly inadequate to the necessities of the institution.

We submit the following resolutions:

1st. That we will do all we can for it as individuals—by opening the way for the College—by collecting books for the library, and geological and Minerological specimens for its museum.

2d. That we recommend the appointment of a Visiting Committee by the President of the Conference, and Rev. V. H. Johnson, as agent, Rev. J. C. Miller, President, Rev. W. H. Scales, Professor of Mathematics, and Rev. J. J. Wheat, Professor of Greek.

3d. That we earnestly solicit the Louisiana Conference to appoint an agent to co-operate with our agent in raising funds for said institution.

MADISON COLLEGE.

This school is represented to us as in a healthy and flourishing condition. The last Catalogue shows an increase of students, 149 in number, among whom are some pious and promising young men. The President, Dr. Thornton, an honored veteran in the cause of Education, and Professor Pugh, both members of this Conference, a third member of the Faculty is a member of our Church, and the other two members of the Faculty are gentlemen of fine literary attainments, whose urbane manners, moral habits, and attention to their work commend them as instructors.

The course of study is extensive, and we notice with pleasure a course of Biblical Literature, which affords an opportunity to all young men disposed to study the Bible, and to all whose parents and guardians desire it. A proposition has been made to place this institution under the patronage of this Conference; and that proposition will be acceded to whenever the friends of the institution shall have raised fifty thousand dollars. And that they may have an opportunity of accomplishing this, the Presiding Elders of Sharon, Vicksburg, Yazoo, Greenville and Starkville Districts, are authorized to accept the same in such amounts as may be granted, and pay them over to the Rev. J P. Thomas, as Treasurer. Thus the liberal Board of Trustees offer to the M. E. Church, South, an institution located in the northern part of our Conference, with its extensive library, museum, instruments, the

building for the College, of brick, finished, and the preparatory school also furnished, on which there is no debt, with all the land and appurtenances in fee forever, now in successful operation, worth at least, it is believed from $25,000 to $30,000. This institution the Board of Trustees propose to transfer to the Conference on the sole condition that the friends of it raise fifty thousand dollars, a sum which we hope will soon be raised.

PORT GIBSON FEMALE COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE.

This institution, received at the present session of the Conference under its care, we learn is in a highly prosperous state, free from debt, and increasing in patronage and public favor. The number of students is about one hundred, with a full corps of able and competent teachers under the Presidency of Rev. B. Jones, A. M., a member of this Conference. The pupils attend regularly the Sabbath School, Church and devotional exercises morning and evening.

SHARON FEMALE COLLEGE.

This old and successful institution continues to prosper. The number of students in attendance last year was eighty-one. The present able Fucalty command the continued confidence of the patrons and friends of the school. During the last threeyears a new building has been erected, and the old one converted into a boarding department. The present number of students is sixty-four, being an increase over last year of same date of thirteen. The pupils regulary attend prayers, morning and evening, Sabbath School, and the public ministrations of the Sabbath. We recommend that the President of the Conference appoint a visiting committee to this institution, and to the Port Gibson Female Collegiate Institute.

Your committee would recommend to the patronage of the Conference and of our people, the Female College at Brookhaven, Mrs. Mary Wall's school, at Clinton, La., Rev. T. W. Brown, at Jackson, La., and Miss Chamberlin's at Natchez, Miss. These schools though not under the care of the Conference, are such as our people may well encourage and patronize.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. J. WHEAT, Ch'm.

Report of the Agent of Centenary College.

To the President and Members of the Mississippi Annual Conference:

The Agent for Centenary College would respectfully report,

that he has been actively engaged in the labors of the Agency during the whole year, excepting a month or two, when he had considerable affliction in his family. And as the result of his labors, would say that he has collected as Endowment Fund, with notes executed, seven thousand five hundred dollars, ($7500) with fully the same amount promised by persons he could not see, for want of time to visit them before the sitting of the Conference, which he feels certain of getting. Besides others have promised by letter and otherwise to help, which, however, he does not depend upon, for we have learned that some people do not mean every time what they say. Your Agent has received for the building, fourteen hundred and fifty-five dollars and ten cents ($1455 10). We have no reason to offer why this is not more, unless it is owing to the fact of the overflows, unusual dry season, and a defective education upon the subject of giving. Your Agent has done work enough and talk enough to have secured the $20,000 if there was not something wrong.

Our people have to be taught on the great subject of beneficence, and it is our humble opinion that, if our preachers would preach more upon this subject, and teach the people, and let them know what we want and what is required of them, and let them see it in the light of God's holy word, that they would be ready, able and willing to give to every laudable and praiseworthy enterprise.

It is the opinion of your agent that the work of paying for the building and endowing the College with as large an endowment as you may wish, can be done. And that he with the hearty co-operation of the preachers, and blessing of God can do it.

Your agent has kept before some families and individuals the subject of each endowing a chair. Those that I have seen are favorable to the enterprise. We had hoped to have had one or two chairs thus endowed before this, but have been unable to report, by failing to see all the parties when visiting their houses.

There is considerable inquiry being awakened throughout the country with regard to the College, and much sympathy for it as is manifested by the increased patronage. By a union of effort upon the part of all interested, and with the vast amount of wealth and influence concentrated about it, it ought to, and will be we trust, the most flourishing institution in the country.

All of which is respectfully submitted. V. H. JOHNSON.

Report of Visiting Committee of Centenary College.

To the Members of the Mississippi Annual Conference.

The Committee appointed at the last session of your Conference,

as the Conference visitors of Centenary College, beg leave to offer the following as their Report:

During the year they have used due diligence in obtaining all the information necessary to a correct understanding of the true condition and prospects of the College, and it is with unfeigned pleasure, that they would report the Institution highly prosperous—with flattering prospects of eminent and distinguished usefulness. With a strong and laborious Faculty, buildings honorable to alike Southern philanthropy and liberality; and all the appliances necessary to the attainment of a thorough classical and scientific education. It is worthy of, and well qualified for the high and responsible duty of training and developing the heads and hearts of the sons of our people. The constantly increasing patronage and widening influence shows that it is rapidly growing in the confidence of those to whom it must look for continuance and support. The present session opened under very flattering auspices—about twice as many students were present during the first month, as were in attendance at the same time, during the last session—more than two hundred students are now in attendance. It was highly gratifying to witness the religiousness of feeling and sentiment which is manifested in the conduct and conversation of a large proportion of the students, about one-third of whom are members of Christ's Church—having consecrated the strength and fervency of early manhood to the service of God. It is a source of heartfelt thankfulness to God—that He thus owns and blesses the labors of his servants, and we confidently hope that the Great Head of the Church will call some of those young men to the "office and work of the ministry," and make them "polished shafts in His quiver."

There have been changes made in the Faculty, and in the course of instruction, which will doubtless advance the interest of the College in a great degree. The Chair of Natural Science has been made a full Professorship, so as to embrace Agricultural Chemistry, and Prof. Holcombe, a man eminently qualified for the position, has been elected to that chair. Rev. J. J. Wheat has been elected to the chair of Greek. Brother Wheat is a member of our Conference. We are acquainted with his merits. Prof. Potter, who has been engaged in teaching for the last 23 years, has also been added to the Faculty. The Faculty now consists of ten men strong to labor and apt to teach.

There is still a debt hanging over the College, and the Endowment Fund is insufficient, and your Committee respectfully suggests that the agency for the College be continued, and that we

request the Louisiana Conference to appoint an agent to act in conjunction with our agent.

We would suggest that our brethren may do much by opening the way for the agent, by circulating information with reference to the College, and by commending the College to the kind confidence and patronage of the people.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

GEO. H. CLINTON,
JOHN A. B. JONES, } Committee.
H. J. HARRIS,

Report of Committee on Port Gibson Academy.

The Committee to whom was referred a document from Port Gibson Female Academy, have had the same under consideration, and recommend this Mississippi Conference to adopt the same as a Conference School, and appoint a visiting committee to said school from the Conference.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. R. LAMBUTH, Ch'm.
P. A. PARKER,
W. W. HART.

At a regular meeting of the Trustees on the 30th day of June, 1859, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That we tender this Academy to the M. E. Conference of Mississippi, for their aid and patronage—it being our object in this resolution to place this institution under the influence, patronage and supervision of the church, and invite them to send visitors to examine into and report upon the progress of the school.

D. G. HUMPHREYS, President,
J. C. HUMPHREYS, Vice Pres't.

J. S. MASON, Sec'y.

Report No. 2 of Committee on Education.

Your Committee ask leave to report, that having had under consideration a proposition made by certain friends of Madison College, for the transfer of said institution to this Conference, recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That soon as the friends of Madison College shall secure an Endowment Fund of fifty thousand dollars, D. M. Wiggins, Levi Pearce, H. H. Montgomery, W. Harrington, J. R. Lambuth, C. G. Andrews, Dr. J. P. Thomas, G. C Treble, O. W. Baldwin, and D. H. Gilmer, shall be a Board of Commissioners,

authorized to receive the transfer of said institution to the Mississippi Conference. Report adopted. J. A. LIGHT, Sec.

Resolved, That we recommend to the President of the Conference, the appointment of Dr. T. C. Thornton, as President, and Brother J. M. Pugh, as Professor in Madison College.

J. C. MILLER.

Q. 23.—What action was had in reference to the subject of Sunday Schools?

A.—The subject was duly considered and the report of the Committee adopted, as follows:

Report of the Sabbath School Committee.

Your Committee, appointed to take into consideration the subject of Sabbath Schools, beg leave to make the following Report:

We have carefully examined the annual reports from the Circuits and Stations of our Conference and find the following statistics.

Schools 77, Officers 448, Scholars 1728, Volumes in Library 13,350, Visitors taken 870, Money received for Sabbath School purposes $716, showing an increase of interest upon the subject. While we are glad to see a slight tendency forward in this cause, we earnestly recommend to our Ministry more active endeavors for its success and advancement. The education of the young, the principles instilled in early childhood, form the great basis and stronghold of all religions; and when we neglect the most favorable and propitious time for sowing the good seed, our harvest will be meagre and scant in this great field before us.

While error and false religion are sustained and disseminated by diligently and incessently laboring with the child, and its worshippers fully alive to the education of their children, the pure christianity we profess should be no less early impressed and enforced upon the minds of *our* children.

The Sabbath School is *peculiarly* the school of *our* religion, the safeguard of the church, and the most powerful agency in giving christianity a permanency in the public mind. Believing that much of our success among the children of our own families, and the imbuing them with the doctrines of our fathers, depend upon an early impression of these truths, we hope our brethren will not overlook the importance of Sabbath Schools in the more active engagements of the pulpit.

We would recommend to your especial attention the *conversion of the children.* While we believe in leading out and interesting their minds by proper incentives, yet we think the one great at-

traction of our religion, its experimental knowledge, should be daily plead before them. To do this more successfully, teachers should be men and women of solid experience in the doctrines of the Bible.

We would furthermore recommend a more extensive circulation of our Sunday School books, and the "Visitor." Especially would we recommend a simple class of books suited to the capacity of the youngest scholar. Many of our libraries are poorly furnished, and little good done through this great channel of instruction.

We would also call the attention of our brethren, to the importance of Bible classes organized for the young and old.

We would recommend to the consideration of Conference the propriety of a Sunday School Convention to be held in some place they may designate, to more extensively promote the interest of this great cause.

W. G. MILLSAPS.
J. Y. GRIFFING.
JOS. D. NEWSOM.
JNO. T. SPENCER.
JARRET WATTS.
W. M. CARNEY.

Resolved, That this Conference appoint a committee of five to make all necessary arrangements to hold a Sabbath School Convention, in the month of May next, and that each preacher in charge be, and he is hereby requested to use his best efforts to see that his charge is represented in such convention.

Signed GEORGE D. WADE.
WHITFIELD HARRINGTON.

Q. 24.—What was the action of Conference in reference to the Bible cause?

A.—The following Report was adopted by the Conference.

Report on Bible Cause.

To the Members of the Mississippi Annual Conference:

The Sub-committee to whom was referred the subject of the the Bible Cause, would respectfully report that they have taken the matter under consideration, and have availed themselves of all the information which could be obtained.

It affords us great pleasure to say that, while very much has been accomplished in the circulation of the Holy Scriptures, unabated zeal is manifested by the different denominations in their continued circulation within the bounds of our Conference.

We deem it unnecessary to enter into any details with regard

to the amount of money which has been collected for this cause, or the number of Bible Societies established, but desire to call the attention of the Committee of the Whole, to the necessity which we think exists of forming some plan by which to bring more fully into exercise the systematic effort of the whole of our church in supplying those who need them with the scriptures.

We need more concert of action, and we need that our societies should be led more fully into this blessed work of distributing God's holy word.

In order to this we would suggest the adoption of the following resolutions:

1st. That each preacher in charge be requested to preach a sermon annually to each congregation in behalf of the Bible cause, after which he shall take up a collection for the same, the money so collected to be applied as the committee named in the second resolution may deem proper.

2d. That the preacher in charge, with two or more members of each society, whom he may select when it may be deemed advisable, shall constitute a committee to ascertain the wants, with regard to the scriptures, of the communities in which those societies are located, and to supply the same by sale or donation.

3d. That the preachers on their various circuits and stations, be requested to act in concert with the South-Western or American Bible Societies in the furtherence of the Bible cause.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. A. B. JONES, Chairman.
V. H. JOHNSON,
THOMAS PRICE,
G. W. BAYNARD,
WILLIAM JAMES,
Sub-Committee.

Q. 25.—What action was had in reference to the cause of Missions?

A.—The following Report and resolutions were adopted.

Report on Missions.

To the Members of the Mississippi Annual Conference:

Your committee beg leave to report, that the result of their careful examination into the condition of this department of christian labor is, that while we discover no abatement of personal ministerial effort or success, there is an evident holding back in the church at large—that telling expression which encourages and provides for a more permanent and growing diffusion of the

gospel, among the destitute portions of our own and foreign heathen. We think it befits us to institute an inquiry into the wherefore of this latter fact, and to adopt some means to provide a remedy. We are aware that some have permitted the home-demand to circumscribe their benevolences, while others from very pure and worthy motives, have transfered their sympathies and support to foreign fields. Both are properly one great work of the church and we think ought to be so joined, that solicitude for one should stimulate to the other.

The obligation to promote missions is a great fact felt by the church, and her confidence in the ultimate subjugation of the world to the obedience of the gospel is undiminished. And yet feeble are her responses to this imperious call, and languid are her efforts to hasten its coming.

Our Conference boundary embraces small territory demanding the appropriation of missionary funds and missionary labor among the whites, and the increasing interest of masters for the religious instruction of their slaves, is gradually placing these missions upon a self-supporting basis.

We must then look beyond our limits for fields of culture, and happily for the churches, ways are opening and calls are made through, and into which she may press with her largest offerings and her highest hopes. Scarce a barrier is now interposed, and the church should feel that her pecuniary resources and her personal efforts cannot be withheld unless she proves herself derelict of duty and false to her vows. We fear that there is a love of ease and shrinking back from personal sacrifice, which suppresses the yearnings of christian hearts, and restrains the gifts of liberal hands. Still we are planting our outposts and manning our garrisons. The success of our missionary to China ought to encourage the most doubtful, and nerve the friends of missions to still more vigorous and sustained effort. We look for a glorious work in that far off land, and pledge ourselves afresh to sustain our existing missions and multiply them as God gives us ability.

W.H. WATKINS, Chairman.

WHEREAS, The Juvenile Missionary Society, of the Sunday School of the M. E. Church in Vicksburg have, for the past ten years, or near that, been raising and placing in the treasury of the Missionary Society of this Conference for a specific purpose, and whereas, that money is now needed by said Society, for the object for which it was originally collected, therefore

Resolved, That whenever the Society needs the money raised to educate a Chinese boy, the treasurer of our Missionary Society be and is hereby authorized to pay the drafts of the Juvenile Mis-

sionary Secretary of the Sunday School of Vicksburg, to the amount raised and deposited by said Society for that purpose.

Resolved, 1st., That this Conference will raise eighteen thousand dollars, for Missionary purposes during the ensuing year.

Resolved, 2d., That the Presiding Elders be a committee for the apportionment of the sums to be raised by the several Districts, Circuits, Stations and Missions.

Resolved, 3d, That hereafter it shall be the duty of the treasurer of the Missionary Society to report in detail, at our anniversary; 1st, amount paid to our domestic missionaries for the year, in the bounds of our own Conference. 2d, amount received in cash, from each Circuit and Station, with a comparison of said amount with the amount collected on same Circuit or Station for preceding year. 3d, aggregate of receipts and disbursements.

Resolved, 4th, That it shall be the duty of our Missionary Secretary at each anniversary, to read a report setting forth the condition of our home and foreign missions, and to submit to the Conference such plan for increasing the activity of the ministry and laity in this important department of christian labor.

Resolved, 5th, That it shall be the duty of the Board of Managers of the Missionary Society to provide speakers for our anniversary, and for a collection to be taken at that time.

Resolved, 6th, That the Reports of the Treasurer and Secretary referred to in the 3d and 4th resolutions, shall be printed in our annual minutes. JOHN C. MILLER.

Q. 26.—What action was had on the suject of Ministerial support?

A.—The following Report was adopted.

Report of Committee on Ministerial Support.

The committee on Ministerial Support beg leave to report, that after a careful examination of the statistics, so far as they have been placed in their hands, they are convinced that our present plan is a good one, and only needs to be understood and carefully carried out, to secure an adequate support to the Preachers in most parts of the Conference. In Vicksburg this plan has been carefully carried out with best results, as seen by Reports.

We find the average assessment for Ministerial Support in the Conference, to be $667 26, average collection $587 66, which is 88 per cent. on assessments.

We find too, that our Conference collections are larger than usual, averaging 79 per cent. on assessments. We, therefore, recommend the passage of the following resolution:

Resolved, That we approve the "*Financial Plan*" of last year, and recommend its continuance. And also, that the Preachers, especially the Presiding Elders, explain it and secure its adoption by each quarterly Conference, at its first meeting each year.

W. P. BARTON, Chairman.

The Committee on Ministerial Support beg leave to present the following, in accordance with the requirements of the "Financial Plan," viz: Whole amount required for the support of the Bishops, superannuates, widows and orphans, and the probable deficiencies of the effective preachers, is $5875, which we have appropriated as follows, viz:

To Natchez District,		$ 900 00
" Fayette	"	900 00
" Vicksburg	"	1000 00
" Greenville	"	625 00
" Yazoo	"	700 00
" Starkville	"	250 00
" Sharon	"	500 00
" Biloxi	"	100 00
" Clinton	"	500 00
" Brookhaven District,		400 00

All of which is respectfully submitted.

E. ERCANBRACK, Ch'm.
H. WILLIAMSON.

Resolved, That we rescind that feature of the Financial Plan which leaves out the regular traveling Ministers.

D. M. WIGGINS.
H. H. MONTGOMERY,

Substitute, to the 6th item of the "Financial Plan."

6th. It shall be the duty of the Preachers to furnish the annual Conference a full statement of the amount of money allowed them for quarterage, table expenses, &c; and also, the exact amount of what they have received of said allowance, and also the amount received for the Bishops, Superannuates, and the widows and orphans of deceased preachers, and the same shall be published in our minutes.

E. ERCANBRACK.
B. JONES.

Report of Joint Publishing Committee of the N. O. Christian Advocate for the Year ending Nov. 1st, 1859.

To the Members of the Mississippi Annual Conference.

In accordance with the action of the last General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, the Louisiana, Ala-

bama and Mississippi Annual Conferences adopted the New Orleans Christian Advocate as their organ; became invested with its proprietorship, and appointed their several Committees of Publication, which now constitute the Joint Publishing Committee, viz: J. C. Keener, J. B. Walker, and Lewis Parker, by the Louisiana Conference. Joshua T. Heard, Mark S. Andrews, and A. S. Andrews, by the Alabama Conference. B. M. Drake, W. H. Watkins, and J. J. Wheat, by the Mississippi Conference. This committee met agreeably to appointment, in New Orleans on the 8th day of March last, fully entered upon the discharge of its duties, and now respectfully present to you a Report of the financial condition of the Advocate for the year ending Nov. 1st, 1859.

Receipts from Subscribers, - - - -	$11533 43
" " Advertising, - - - - -	3023 12
	$14,556 55
Expense of publication, - - - - -	12,103 58

The number of subscribers exclusive of agents and exchanges is 7100, which as compared with the last year, is an increase of 640 subscribers, and of $4040 06 cash receipts. The amount received from subscribers alone does not, however, as yet pay the expenses of publication by $570 15.

During the year the committee has expended upon the Advocate $1765 44 more than during any previous year, in affording its patrons an increased amount of reading matter, and greatly improved typography. The result has been that both the ministers and people show an increasing interest in its success and circulation.

J. C. KEENER,
J. B. WALKER,
L. PARKER,
Executive Committee.

New Orleans, La., 1st Nov. 1859.

Resolved, That we congratulate the sister and patronizing Conferences; and also, the editor, Rev. C. C. Gillespie, on the growing improvement of the New Orleans Christian Advocate; and as a Conference, we pledge our cordial support and hearty co-operation for the increase of its circulation, and the promotion of its more general usefulness.

C. K. MARSHALL.

Church Publications.

The committee on Church Publications beg leave to report that this great interest is in good and prosperous condition gen-

erally. We rejoice to see so good a report from our Conference paper—the New Orleans Christian Advocate.

In regard to the impeachment of the members of this Conference, and Book and Tract Society of this Conference, and the pledges of this Conferenence,

We Report, That upon inquiry we learn that quite a number of unpaid balances appear upon the books of the Publishing House at Nashville, against members of this Conference, but whether sufficient in amount or lapse of time since maturity to authorize the terms of Brother McFerrin's complaints, we do not decide.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. P. BARTON, Chairman.

There appearing to be a misunderstanding between the Agent of the Publishing House, and the Depository at Vicksburg, with regard to their respective accounts, and we having neither the authority nor the vouchers necessary to enable us to adjudicate the matters at issue, we do therefore recommend to the agent of the Publishing House, and the Board of Managers of the Vicksburg Depository, to leave their differences to an arbitration.

J. A. LIGHT.

Resolved, That the Book and Tract Depository of this Conference, at Vicksburg, is an institution of great value to the church, one which may be and ought to be wielded powerfully, in furtherance of our publishing interests, and of religion generally. And that we will, by all proper means in our power, directly and indirectly, encourage and patronize the same to the extent of our ability. And further, that we appeal earnestly and affectionately to those indebted to this Depository, for stock, shares, or otherwise, to make prompt and immediate payment.

Resolved, That we authorize the President of the Book and Tract Society, to fill vacancies in the Board of Managers, by appointment, during the interim of Conference.

W. P. BARTON.

Resolved, That the Book Agent be and is hereby requested to publish Olin's Essay on a call to the Ministry, in pamphlet form.

R. ABBEY.

H. H. MONTGOMERY.

The Special Committee to whom was referred a certain contribution to the New Orleans Christian Advocate, in three numbers, headed, "the Gospel and Slavery," beg leave to report the following resolution, and recommend its adoption:

Resolved, That the Mississippi Annual Conference recommend to the Book Agent, at Nashville, the publication in tract form, of said contribution, if compatible with the interest of the publishing House

JOHN W. BURRUS,
H. F. JOHNSON,
WM. McNEILL.

WHEREAS, Our people are constantly needing new church edifices, and hitherto have been exposed to much loss, great inconvenience, and no small amount of miserable work, worse designs, and very exorbitant costs in the building of a large number of the churches now in use, therefore be it

Resolved, That our Book Agent, at Nashville, be respectfully requested to secure a variety of plans, with specifications, for rural churches, adapted to the necessities of our people generally, and publish the same.

C. K. MARSHALL.
GEO. H. CLINTON.

Committees of Examination, &c.

The course of Study was divided into Literary, Historical and Theological.

Literary.—John C. Miller, Wm. H. Watkins, W. P. Barton.

Historical.—James L. Forsyth, Benjamin Jones, J. J. Wheat.

Theological.—H. H. Montgomery, H. M. Booth, John Lusk.

Committee to Examine Candidates for Admission on Trial.—B. M. Drake, John R. Lambuth, Thomas W. Brown.

The Following are appointed to act as Chairmen in Committee of the Whole, at the next Conference, upon the several subjects named.

EDUCATION.....JOHN G. JONES.
MISSIONS.....L. ERCANBRACK.
BIBLE CAUSE.....H. H. MONTGOMERY.
CHURCH PUBLICATIONS.....B. JONES.
MINISTERIAL SUPPORT.....W. P. BARTON.
SUNDAY SCHOOLS.....W. HARRINGTON.

Visiting Committees, &c.

Visiting Committee to Centenary College.

WILLIAM P. BARTON, WILLIAM G. MILLSAPS.
JAMES L. FORSYTH.

Visiting Committee to Madison College.

JOHN R. LAMBUTH, WILLIAM F. CAMP,
H. H. MONTGOMERY.

Visiting Committee to Sharon Female College,

WHITFIELD HARRINGTON, WILLIAM M. CURTIS,
WILLIAM F. CAMP.

Visiting Committee to Port Gibson Academy.

JOHN A. B. JONES, HORACE M. BOOTH,
DANIEL A. J. PARKER.

Visiting Committee to East Feliciana Female Academy.

VERNON H. JOHNSON, JAMES L. FORSYTH,
JAMES A. GODFREY.

Committee to Manage for Sunday School Convention.

WILLIAM P. BARTON, WHITFIELD HARRINGTON,
JAMES L. FORSYTH, JAMES A. GODFREY,
BENJAMIN JONES.

Officers of the Book and Tract Society of the Mississippi Conference:

Rev. H. H. MONTGOMERY, President.
Rev. E. G. COOK, Vice President.
Rev. G. H. CLINTON, Secretary.
WILLIAM CRUTCHER, Treasurer.

Board of Managers of the Depository:

Rev. C. K. MARSHALL,
Rev. LEVI PEARCE,
Rev. W. P. BARTON,
Rev. D. M. WIGGINS,
Rev. W. HARRINGTON,
J. C. MOSBEY,
J. W. VICK,
A. B. READING,
R. H. SMITH,
R. D. HOWE,
GEORGE SELSER.

☞ Address: Book and Tract Depository. ☜